



NGC News

Important Announcement! NGC Relocates to Larger Facilities

Find out here how NGC's upcoming move might affect your submission orders.

[Read this article...](#)

The American Eagle 20th Anniversary Set

As the American Eagle program celebrates a milestone anniversary, it is launching a commemorative set with the potential to be an instant classic.

[Read this article...](#)

Special Instructions for Submitting 20th Anniversary Eagles to NGC

If you're planning to collect a commemorative American Eagle 20th Anniversary set, here's how you can submit it to NGC.

[Read this article...](#)

Coin Dealer? Or Mint Lackey?

By NumisMedia

Numismedia examines the effects of the \$50 Gold Buffalo on the coin market and addresses concerns that lack of demand is causing the market to languish.

[Read this article...](#)

THE CENTS OF 1909, Part One

David Lange explores the ins and outs of one of the most popular years among collectors.

[Read this article...](#)



**NGC
COLLECTORS
SOCIETY**

- Submit directly to NGC
- Online submission forms and order tracking
- Memberships from \$39/yr

[Join Today >](#)

Visit our affiliated websites:



Official Grading Service of



Important Announcement! NGC Relocates to Larger Facilities

Posted on 9/1/2006

Find out here how NGC's upcoming move might affect your submission orders.

At the end of September 2006, NGC will occupy a new building in Sarasota, Florida. This 60,000 square foot purpose-built facility will house all the Certified Collectibles Group companies, providing additional room to expand and increasing operational efficiency. The new structure also incorporates state-of-the-art security enhancements and cutting-edge storm resistance features.

The move has been carefully orchestrated to minimize impact on your pending submission orders. Friday, September 22, will not be counted as a business day in the calculation of the turnaround time of your orders. We will reopen for normal business of September 25.

Mail and other packages sent to our post office box will not be affected by this move. Our mailing address and phone numbers remain the same:

NGC

PO Box 4776
Sarasota, FL 34230
(800) NGC-COIN
(941) 360-3990

Shipping Via FedEx and UPS

Our move will effect packages sent via FedEx, UPS, or other couriers requiring a physical address. Overnight packages sent on or after September 21, 2006 should be directed to our new address. Other parcels scheduled for delivery on or after September 22, 2006 should be sent to our new address. Please contact

NGC customer service for shipping information.

Note that only our physical address will change, and we request that you continue to use our post office box for all correspondence sent by U.S. Mail.

Articles List

NGC is the Official Grading Service of



View All >



Careers Legal Privacy Policy Security Center Sitemap Terms Affiliates Contact

© 2018 Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

United States

The American Eagle 20th Anniversary Set

Posted on 9/1/2006

As the American Eagle program celebrates a milestone anniversary, it is launching a commemorative set with the potential to be an instant classic.

Has it really been 20 years since the American Eagle program started? Actually no, it has been 21, but that is beside the point. The American Eagle 20th Anniversary set is about to be released by the United States Mint to celebrate the milestone.

The American Eagle was first released in late 1986. Since then, it has become a very popular item among collectors, dealers and investors alike. The governmentally backed silver, gold and later platinum coinage is not only something that could be trusted, but also collected and traded easily.



In 1995, the 10th Year Anniversary of the American Eagle was celebrated with the release of a 10th Anniversary set. The set included one each of the Proof Gold Eagle denominations, 1/10 ounce, 1/4 ounce, 1/2 ounce and 1 ounce. It also included a 1995 Proof Silver Eagle featuring a W, or West Point, mint mark. This was the first Silver Eagle to feature the W mintmark. The set sold for \$995 and, with a total of 30,125 minted, the Eagle became an instant rarity, quickly surpassing the price of the four gold coins combined. Today the set sells for about \$7,000 and the silver eagle sells for about \$5,000. In PF70, the 1995-W Silver Eagle can fetch more than \$15,000.

In 2006 the United States mint officially announced plans for an American Eagle Commemorative set. Three sets containing between two and three coins would be

issued. The sets included the proof version of the Eagle, a mint state mint marked version of the Eagle and for the first time a "reverse proof" Eagle. The sets were broken down into a three-piece gold set containing one of each, a three-piece silver set containing one of each and a two-piece gold and silver set containing one of each mint state mint marked coin.

The significance of the sets is in their unique coin offerings. For the first time, the United States is purposely issuing mint state Eagles bearing the West Point mint mark. In 1999, the United States accidentally minted and released 1/10 ounce and 1/4 ounce gold Eagles using unfinished Proof Dies containing the W mint mark. These coins can bring several hundred to thousands of dollars depending on condition. However these coins were accidentally issued and only appeared on those two denominations. The anniversary sets contain a Silver Eagle with a West Point mint mark with a mintage of 280,000 and a Gold Eagle with a West Point mint mark with a mintage of 30,000.

Even more unique is the "reverse proof" Eagle. Never before has the United States minted a "reverse proof." Much like the bullion coins of Australia and other countries, the coin will feature a unique finish with a brilliant relief and frosted field. With a mintage of 250,000 for the silver and 10,000 for the gold, the coins will be not only be popular but in extremely short supply compared to other recent mint issues.

The final coin will be the standard proof version of the coin. While it may not be as unique as the other coins in the set, it might prove to be the rarest coin the sets have to offer. The sets come unsealed from the United States mint and therefore it is a requirement of NGC that sets submitted for grading should be sent in the unopened mint shipping box for the proof coin to receive the designation of 20th Anniversary Set. As a result, as collectors and dealers receive their orders from the mint and open the packaging to inspect and admire their coins, they will lose the designation for the coin which will make it difficult to find a designated proof issue coin. For those who were willing to get the designation by not opening the package, they may have a coin much like the Millennium Silver Eagle, which can only be designated Millennium Set when received intact making it a key for the series. With only 250,000 Silver and 10,000 Gold minted, getting a certified proof 20th Anniversary coin could be very tough depending on whether or not people open the sets.

The United State Mint prevented dealers, investors, speculators and others from obtaining too many of these sets by limiting it to ten of each set per person. The small mintage and high price of sets, \$2,610 for the three-piece gold, \$850 for the two-piece and \$100 for the three-piece silver, limited many from obtaining large quantities. Regardless, the three piece gold set sold out within the day thus adding to the allure of the set.

Ultimately, it will be up to the market and collectors to see how popular and expensive these sets will eventually become. With such a small mintage and high demand they could eventually prove to be a classical rarity and key for the eagle sets.

NGC is the Official Grading Service of



View All >

NGC is an Approved Grading Company of



Careers Legal Privacy Policy Security Center Sitemap Terms Affiliates Contact

© 2018 Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

United States

Special Instructions for Submitting 20th Anniversary Eagles to NGC

Posted on 9/1/2006

If you're planning to collect a commemorative American Eagle 20th Anniversary set, here's how you can submit it to NGC.

In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the American Eagle Bullion Program, the U.S. Mint is issuing special commemorative sets. The Mint will be selling three different sets which include three different formats of both the silver and gold American Eagle, including a proof coin, an uncirculated coin with W mintmark, and a reverse proof.



Coins from these sets will be pedigreed as EAGLE 20TH ANNIVERSARY. A special NGC commemorative label will also be available. Because some of these coins are also available individually from the U.S. Mint, special instructions must be followed in order for coins to qualify for this pedigree. **Coins must remain in the sealed shipping boxes used by the U.S. Mint, and the entire unopened package must be forwarded on to NGC for certification. NGC must open these boxes in order for the coins to qualify for the EAGLE 20TH ANNIVERSARY.**

Additionally, submitters requesting this designation or special label must submit these coins on their own submission invoice. The 20th anniversary coins cannot be mixed with other coins to qualify for this pedigree.

U.S. Mint boxes and packaging material will be returned to the submitters and a

surcharge will be assessed on bulk submissions for this service. Dealers should contact NGC for bulk submission instruction and guidelines.

As of this release, all 2006 reverse proof coins will be eligible for this pedigree and label regardless of mint packaging, as these are only sold in 20th anniversary sets. Uncirculated and proof coins with W mintmark will not qualify for the designation if not submitted in sealed packaging.

Questions? Contact NGC Customer Service at service@ngccoin.com or 1-800-NGC-COIN.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the special label available for both single coin holder and multi-coin holder?

Yes. These are a few of the holder options available, showing the Eagle 20th Anniversary Label:





Are 20th Anniversary Eagles eligible for the first strikes designation?

No, this designation is not available for these coins. For more information about first strikes, please visit [NGC authentication of first strikes coinage](#)

What at the minimum quantities required for a bulk submission of 20th Anniversary Eagles?

Because of the Mint's order limits we have relaxed the minimum quantity requirements of 20th Anniversary Eagles. All dealers should submit 20th Anniversary Eagles as bulk submissions if requesting special label and pedigree.

[Articles List](#)

NGC is the Official Grading Service of

AMERICAN
NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION



NGC is an Approved Grading Company of

SIXBID.COM
EXPERTS IN NUMISMATIC AUCTIONS

catawiki

MA-SHOPS
Collector Online Mall

View All >



[Careers](#) [Legal](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Security Center](#) [Sitemap](#) [Terms](#) [Affiliates](#) [Contact](#)

© 2018 Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

 United States 

Coin Dealer? Or Mint Lackey?

Posted by NumisMedia on 9/1/2006

Numismedia examines the effects of the \$50 Gold Buffalo on the coin market and addresses concerns that lack of demand is causing the market to languish.

We are in the midst of a multi-tiered coin market that has many dealers wondering if they are real numismatists or just unpaid representatives of the U.S. Mint actively supporting the secondary market for mint products. The recent release of the \$50 Gold Buffalo has taken well over \$300 million out of the coin market. This is money that potentially could have been used to buy U.S. Gold, along with other bullion related items. Presumably, some of this money could have been used to purchase real numismatic rarities as well. This has created one of the best buying opportunities, possibly in numismatic history; at least in the recent history of numismatics. Some numismatists have voiced concern that the coin market is drifting lower because of a lack of demand. This could well be the case as buying philosophy has certainly shifted over the last several weeks. Since demand has been so high for the \$50 Gold Buffalo, dealers have had to participate in this market even though they really do not care for it. This is a market of survival. Whatever it takes to make money is what dealers are prepared to do.

While the \$50 Gold Buffalo (and other limited edition products from the mint) has commandeered much of recent spending, many areas of the traditional coin market are left to languish as demand has subsided and supplies are readily available. Dealers aggressively marketing their coins at new levels are keeping ahead of other dealers waiting for potential customers to jump into a specific area. When a series is hot, nearly all grades will be active. It may start with some of the higher grades as dealers market MS64s and 65s to busy collectors. But the collectors wanting to participate in this series yet cannot commit necessary funds soon look to the lower grades that seem more affordable. The demand filters down and everyone gets involved. The FMV rises due to the excessive demand and fervent activity creates more interest. However, when the market softens in this area as dealers and collectors take profits, the direction can change very

quickly. The latest example of this is the \$5 Indian where supplies have certainly increased as demand subsided over the last two months. We have not seen any turnaround as of yet as the FMV appears to be creating new buying opportunities.

The recent activity in modern issue bullion gold has caused a weakness in demand for generic U.S. Gold coins minted prior to 1933. The most common U.S. Gold coins have seen a drop in premiums like we cannot recall in many years. Heritage did a recent study on the current market for generics compared to the high point of gold bullion at \$720 near the beginning of May. With gold of \$620 at the end of August, we can see some very startling changes in current prices of common date gold coins. With gold down about 13%, we have found several issues that have fallen well over 30% in the same timeframe. The \$5 Indian in MS64 has fallen 38%, while the \$2 ½ Liberty in MS65 has dropped 35%. The \$20 Liberty in MS64 has adjusted down 37% and the MS66 Saint has lost 29%. There are numerous other issues with like results; are these buying opportunities or simply lost profits? The future will dictate where we are headed and only you can determine how well your collections will perform.

One of the prettiest coins you will ever see is the 1907 High Relief \$20 St. Gaudens. It is also one of the rarest coins that is easily marketed, but at the same time is readily available. It has constantly gone up in value over the last couple of years; that is, until now. It has suddenly hit an FMV resistance point and we are now seeing some discounting in the most popular grades: MS63 to MS65. This coin can take up a lot of value in inventory and some dealers need cash for other areas of the market. We are seeing wholesale dealers normally trading only in traditional rarities now offering buy/sell spreads in the \$50 Gold Buffalo. The quantities are massive, so cash flow is very important. When you can sell hundreds of \$50 Gold Buffalo coins in a day, it does not make sense to tie up inventory in \$25,000 to \$50,000 coins that require a specialized buyer to attract. The fact may be that the temporary market is in the modern bullion issues while true rarities take a back seat. If this is the case, those collectors with the most money to spend will certainly have the opportunity to find those rarities they have been coveting. There are still many rare coins coming up in future auctions that we are sure will not be reasonably priced when the final hammer hits.

Despite what may seem like a negative tone to the near future, we think, as many dealers do, that the market is in a transition (cycle, if you will); when buyers cannot find the coins they really want at the prices they want to pay, their interests tend to shift. We feel the avid interest in the modern bullion coins is temporary and will quickly shift back to the more traditional coinage once collectors are tired of looking at the same old stuff. Of course, if the metals continue to rise, it will help

the entire market and market psychology will be enhanced. For the time being most dealers will go with the flow and market whatever is most popular. If FMV gets too cheap in some areas of the market, the buyers will quickly move in and prices will adjust. We still do not see (excluding High Reliefs) true rarities selling at discounts, nor do we expect to at any time soon. There is still plenty of money in the market to purchase anything that smells of old and rare.

Major auctions continuing to locate and offer expensive rarities and many records have been set and then broken. This is an ongoing pursuit by those who can afford only the best numismatics has to offer. It is a philosophy that is not likely to change under the current market atmosphere. We are not likely to see bullion retreat to yesteryear prices as long as the world economy is status quo. Most analysts do not expect the world economy to get better before it gets worse. This in itself is good for numismatics. We are in the best market we have ever seen, even if there are some areas of weakness. These areas of weakness are simply areas of opportunity. To take advantage of opportunity the only ingredient needed is market timing and the timing may be different for each of us. Today, tomorrow, next week; the future still looks promising for numismatics.

This article is a guest article written by:



The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

[Articles List](#)

NGC is the Official Grading Service of



[View All](#) >





[Careers](#) [Legal](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Security Center](#) [Sitemap](#) [Terms](#) [Affiliates](#) [Contact](#)

© 2018 Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

THE CENTS OF 1909, Part One

Posted on 9/1/2006

David Lange explores the ins and outs of one of the most popular years among collectors.

The cents dated 1909 have long been favorites with collectors. This was a transitional year in which both James B. Longacre's Indian Head Liberty design and Victor D. Brenner's Lincoln Head design were coined. Each type was struck at both the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints, the Lincoln type both with and without the designer's initials. The result was a total of six collectable varieties. While three of these carry noticeable premiums in all grades, each is within the means of most collectors.



In the fall of 1908, when the U.S. Mint was preparing dies for the 1909 coinage, it was known already that a new type of cent would be introduced. It was also clear by then that this new design would not be finalized in time to commence coining it at the beginning of the year. Thus the Mint's Engraving Department began creating dies dated 1909 of the existing Indian Head type. 1909 was the golden anniversary of Longacre's cent, the only type familiar to most Americans then living. The early issues had been coined in an alloy of copper and nickel, this composition being used until early in 1864. Struck in bronze since thereafter, most dates since 1864 had been produced in sufficient numbers that they were still circulating in 1909.

The 1909 Indian Head cents are distinctive in two ways. In previous years, the date had been applied to each and every obverse die by impressing a four-digit logotype into that working die. The result was a very slight variation in the position of the date relative to other elements of the design, as well as a number of repunched numeral varieties unique to each working die. For the 1909 cents, however, it appears that the date was punched into the master die. All of the working hubs and working dies generated from that master die thus had identical date placements. This was a transition to the new coin types introduced beginning in 1909, all of which had their initial dates of coining sculpted into the artist's original models.

Also distinctive on the 1909 cents is an enlarged letter 'L' on the ribbon that hangs down from Liberty's hair. Perhaps this was an eleventh hour tribute to Mr. Longacre's beloved design that was about to be replaced. All previous issues back to the introduction of the designer's initial in 1864 featured a smaller letter that was challenging to read. On a number of working dies this letter is doubled, indicating that a working hub must have been slightly offset between impressions during the hub raising process. Such doubling was then transferred to all of the dies sunk from that hub.

Both Philadelphia and San Francisco ceased the coining of Indian Head cents in the early spring of 1909, when it appeared that dies of the Lincoln type would be arriving shortly. The eastern mint had by then produced more than 14 million cents, while San Francisco had struck only 309,000 pieces. Had such mintages occurred earlier in the series these issues would be considered scarce and rare, respectively. Because these were the final issues of their type, and thus widely hoarded by collectors and the general public, enough survive that they are affordable in most grades.

1909(P) Indian Head cents are, aside from the features mentioned above, not measurably different from the dates immediately preceding. They are found over a wide range of grades, though ones showing the very heavy wear common to earlier issues are not often seen. As the Indian Head cents in circulation began to be overwhelmed by the vast numbers of Lincoln Cents coined 1916-20 people started hoarding the older type cents, sparing the later dates from such terminal wear.

Mint State examples of the 1909(P) cent may be found with nearly full, original mint red color. Such coins typically were pulled from the centers of old bank-wrapped rolls, though the supply of these appears to be exhausted. Most survivors have minor spotting and staining, since the high-quality storage products available today did not arrive in time to spare them. More attractive to my eye are examples having mellowed red color or a balanced blend of red and brown, sans spotting and staining. While some softness of strike may be seen in the feathertips on many 1909(P) cents, this date is on average a bit better struck than the years immediately preceding.

Despite their low mintage 1909-S Indian Head cents are not rare in most grades. They certainly are scarce enough to command a premium in all grades, and this issue is in constant demand from collectors. As with its Philadelphia Mint counterpart, this coin is seldom seen in very heavily worn condition, as it was a "keeper" from the outset. Mint State 1909-S cents reveal weak feathertips, which evidently was due to a deficiency in the single obverse die used for this issue. Fully red examples are quite rare, due in part to the tendency of 'S' Mint cents to develop tarnish streaks in what is often described as "woodgrain" pattern. While this unattractive feature is an aid to authenticating these often counterfeited or altered cents, it likewise reduces the number of gem pieces available to collectors.

David W. Lange's column USA Coin Album appears monthly in Numismatist, the official publication of the American Numismatic Association

NGC is the Official Grading Service of



View All >



Careers Legal Privacy Policy Security Center Sitemap Terms Affiliates Contact

© 2018 Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

United States